

"Gateway to the Arborway" Consolidated Public Comments June 10, 2008

Any further comments can be emailed by June 25, 2008 to: shaun.provencher@state.ma.gov

- The Arboretum wall is collapsing in places and the sidewalk is being undermined. The wall is owned by the City of Boston (per Arboretum rep in the audience). DCR and the City of Boston need to communicate on this issue prior to any work.
- DCR should investigate the option of a chain and bollard system along the median instead of fencing.
- Some sort of barrier (fence/guardrail) should be installed all along the edge at the base of the Arborway Hillside. If a new path is installed here, the safety of the pedestrians/bikers is a major concern. The possibility of using the NPS standard steel-backed timber guardrail was discussed.
- SIGNAGE: 1) Transitional signage needs to be installed on the westbound lane in particular to announce to drivers that they are entering parklands and should slow down. 2) Information to indicate other parts of the system, such as Franklin Park or the Arboretum) should also be here. 3) Signs that westbound drivers are approaching a crosswalk should be installed. (Note: the transitional signage point was strongly reiterated throughout and after the meeting.)
- The final product should have a schedule/priority plan.
- Any new fencing installed on the median should be as long as possible to insure pedestrian control.
- DCR should investigate the narrowing of travel lanes, or using the existing breakdown lanes, if space is needed for paths.
- Best planting practices should be in the plan.
- DCR should further investigate the threats to a red oak monoculture and consider planting a selection of trees.
- DCR should consider some type of warning to cars that pedestrians are on the crosswalk, like the blinking lights set into the ground.

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